Desktop

Latest Information from the NRL Labwide ADP Program and the NRL Systems Support Team

Year 2000 Support

We have recently added the NRL Y2K Plan (Draft) to the Year 2000 Support web page. The information contained in the *NRL Year 2000 Action Plan* will be used to certify Year 2000 compliance. The *NRL Year 2000 Action Plan* is comprised of the plan with Appendices A through K. The complete *NRL Year 2000 Action Plan* is presented intact, the text is presented without appendices, and the appendices are presented individually. The documents are available in MS Word 97 and PDF formats.

The Year 2000 web page also includes the NRL online computer inventory. This was produced based upon a snapshot of the data in the NRL Asset Management System (AMS) managed by Code 3300. Some pre-processing was done to try to determine which entries are for computer systems. Some of the information in AMS is not standardized. The current AMS does not include any computer systems that cost under $2,500. Systems bought before 13 January 1997 that cost under $2,500 have been included from AMS history files, so only systems bought since 13 January 1997 that cost under $2,500 are not included in the NRL online computer inventory.

The NRL online computer inventory is password protected. It will be updated by ECC's, or others assigned by individual divisions. This inventory will be compared to the certification and contingency plans and will become the basis for NRL's Y2K system reporting to the Navy. ■

MacOS 8.1 CD Available

The MacOs 8.1 is available in CD format from Systems Support. The CD can provide an upgrade from 8.0 or a clean install; it is a bootable CD so it can used even if your hard drive is corrupted. MacOs 8.1 is recommended for PowerPC Macs with at least 16 MB of memory.

You will need between 135 - 172 MB of disk space for the install. Note that PowerTalk is not compatible with MacOS 8.1. Although compatibility problems are not expected, you should check with the vendors of any non-Apple software you use before upgrading.

Some Performa / Power Mac 5200 series, 5300 series, 6200 series, and 6300 series models cannot use MacOS 8.1 until a hardware problem is fixed. The repairs are covered under the Apple repair extension program. To see if your computer has this hardware problem, use the 5xxx/6xxx Tester utility in the Utilities folder on the CD before the install.

If you are doing the upgrade yourself, use the **Install Mac OS 8.1** or the **Update to Mac OS 8.1** program to install the software. This program performs all the tasks recommended for a successful installation and simplifies the installation process. The point-of-contact for this upgrade is *Beverly Bryant*, 767-1400.

If you would like Systems Support to do the install, send email to **syssupport@nrl.navy.mil**. ■

Software Piracy

The White House is releasing an executive order establishing a Government wide policy to prevent and combat computer software piracy. This executive order will also establish in depth criteria for tracking software; which may consist of inventory, record keeping systems, and authorized software usage. NRL appears to be in good shape on this issue, however, now may be an excellent opportunity to verify software licensing on all systems.

This order is coming at an opportune time for NRL. Year 2000 software compliance can be checked while verifying licensing. This will allow additional licenses or upgrades to be obtained at the same time. Please visit our web pages at **http:// amp.nrl.navy.mil/code5595** and/or contact *Beverly Bryant* (202)767-1400 (**bryant2@ccs.nrl.navy.mil**) for assistance obtaining needed software licenses or upgrades.

The NRL ADP Program Group maintains databases of all site licensed software and software which has been obtained through the group. This information will be available if required by the executive order. ■

NRL News Groups

A question about NRL-specific news-groups was recently sent to syssupport@nrl.navy.mil. The CCS news server makes the following newsgroups available:

- nrl.adp-security
- nrl.announcements
- nrl.car-pools
- nrl.ccs
- nrl.compusec-info
- nrl.estd
- nrl.electronic.sign
- nrl.facilities-mgt
- nrl.forsale
- nrl.hpc-mp
- nrl.hpc.cm5
- nrl.hpc.global-works
- nrl.misc
- nrl.mssc
- nrl.navnews
- nrl.mug
- nrl.ncst
- nrl.rec-club
- nrl.seminars
- nrl.sgi
- nrl.supply-board
- nrl.test
- nrl.training-opp

Remember to specify **news.nrl.navy.mil** as your server. The news server is supported by the Research Computers Section, Code 5593. ∎

CCS Licensed Software

Systems Support makes a wide range of software available to NRL users, through either lab-wide contracts for PC/Mac systems or the software Depot project for UNIX boxes.

The PC/Mac software is made available through either a site-wide contract or, more typically, through a license purchased for a large, but limited, number of copies of a particular software package. Therefore availability of some software may be restricted at times. In either case, the software is licensed for "personal use" (i.e. not commercial) by government employees on government systems at NRL.

Visit our recently revised web pages!

Most of the UNIX software available from the Depot project is either freeware or shareware, however a few products are being made available under a license agreement:

- AFS clients
- Ncar graphics
- Netscape
- PGP encryption
- XV image manipulation

These products fall under the "personal use" on government systems restriction. All of the depot UNIX software is restricted to access by systems in the **nrl.navy.mil** domain.

Questions about software availability should be emailed to **syssupport@nrl.navy.mil**. ∎

Eudora Pro E-Mail Vulnerability

Qualcomm, Inc. announced on August 7, 1998, that a security vulnerability has been discovered in their popular e-mail program **Eudora Pro**. The vulnerability is limited to Eudora Pro versions 4.0 and 4.0.1 running on the Microsoft Windows platform. This vulnerability does **not** affect Eudora Lite, previous Eudora Pro versions running on the Microsoft Windows platform, or Eudora versions running on the Macintosh platform.

The vulnerability that was discovered in Eudora Pro 4.0 and 4.0.1 is fairly easy to exploit. The vulnerability allows someone to send hostile Java applets, executable programs, or scripts in an e-mail message and hide the name of the attachment as a URL. A user who clicks on the URL would launch and run the e-mail attachment allowing the rogue attachment to execute.

Qualcomm, Inc. has issued a patch for Eudora Pro 4.0 and 4.0.1 to fix this problem at **http://eudora.qualcomm.com/ pro_email/updaters.html**.

You can also temporary protect yourself by turning off the Microsoft viewer from within Eudora. To do this, follow these steps:

   1. In Eudora, go to the Tools menu and choose "Options".
   2. On the left-hand side of the options window, select "Viewing Mail".
   3. On the right hand side of the options window, make sure the box next to "USE" Microsoft's viewer" is UNCHECKED.
   4. Click on "OK" on the bottom of the window.

If you disable the Microsoft viewer feature you will not be able to read HTML in an e-mail message.

For more information, see the **http:// www.ciac.org/ciac/bulletins/i-083.shtml** web page. ∎

Personal Name Service

The NRL Personal Name Service is a centralized mail gateway that maps personal names of NRL employees to their email addresses. Email can be sent to NRL users at any of the following address formats as long as the name format is unique at NRL:

- *firstname.lastname*@nrl.navy.mil

- *firstname.mi.lastname*@nrl.navy.mil

- *nickname.lastname*@nrl.navy.mil

- *lastname*@nrl.navy.mil   (only if unique!)

The NRL Personal Name Service uses the email address included in the NRL Locator Database. The NRL Locator Database **must** contain your full email address with the hostname, which specifies where to deliver your email. The NRL Locator Database should **never** use the address formats listed above

To check that your Locator entry is correct:

whois -h mailserv.nrl.navy.mil "*your name*"

For example, **whois -h mailserv.nrl.navy.mil "vonk"** shows:

Michael G. Vonk (Mike)   code5595   ba49/010   767-3884 vonk@ccf.nrl.navy.mil
Christine B. Vonk   code7102   b2/175a   767-0711 burns@fenton.nrl.navy.mil

However, **whois -h mailserv.nrl.navy.mil "michael vonk"** shows:

Michael G. Vonk (Mike) NRL, code5595
E-mail: vonk@ccf.nrl.navy.mil
Office: ba49/010
Phone: 767-3884

In this example, email sent to

- **michael.g.vonk@nrl.navy.mil**

- **mike.vonk@nrl.navy.mil**, or

- **michael.vonk@nrl.navy.mil**

would be delivered to **vonk@ccf.nrl.navy.mil**. In this example, **vonk@nrl.navy.mil** is not unique and would not work. The nickname must be listed in parenthesis after the lastname, as shown in the example.

Updates and corrections to the NRL Locator Database are done by the Division Administrative Officers.

Please send questions about email addresses and nicknames to *Doryce Moore*, **mailmgr@ccs.nrl.navy.mil** or call 767-5853. ■

System Troubleshooting

If your system crashes and you don't know whether the problem was caused by hardware or software, you can contact the System Support group to have one of our staff come to your office and trouble-shoot your system. We will investigate and discover the cause of the system problem, be it hardware or software.

Hardware issues would comprise any number of problems from faulty RAM and hard drive disk corruption to a frozen monitor. After we have identified the problem, we will make a recommendation about whether to repair or replace the faulty component. If there is an appropriate lab-wide contract in place for hardware replacement or repair service, we will put you in touch with the point-of-contact.

Software issues might arise from an older version of the operating system, 3rd party application software, or software on your peripherals (e.g. a corrupted boot block on your internal drive). After we have identified the problem, we will work with you to eliminate it by reinstalling or reconfiguring the software. If this involves upgrading software, we will let you know if you can save money by using one of the lab-wide contracts.

The system troubleshooting service is supplied on a short-term basis. If your system is going to require long-term support, we can make arrangements for system administration through a lab-wide contract.

Troubleshooting is available for PCs (Windows/NT), Macs, and major UNIX systems. If you are interested in system troubleshooting support, please send email to **syssupport@nrl.navy.mil**. ■

Windows NT and Formflow

The Center for Computational Science is working with the NRL Training Office to provide additional training capability. We have scheduled four courses beginning in October. Standby lists have been developed and additional courses will be scheduled to accommodate everyone who is interested in the training. Two courses are on Formflow, and two courses are on Microsoft NT. The courses are presented by a Microsoft Certified Instructor and are limited to a class size of 12.

Please visit the 5595 Training web page, at **http://amp.nrl.navy.mil/code5595/** to register for the courses.

1. **Formflow for the PC**

2. **Formflow for the Mac**

3. **Windows NT Workstation 4.0: Orientation**
   Overview: Students will learn the benefits of using a Windows NT Workstation.

   Prerequisites: None. The student should be new to using Windows NT Workstation.

   Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: identify some fundamental personal computing concepts and terminology, work with multiple programs by using the task bar to switch between and tile windows; become accustomed to common Windows NT Workstation program techniques by experimenting with WordPad; display the contents of disks by using the Windows NT Explorer; create a folder by using the shortcut menu; access shared data; copy and move documents and folders by dragging them; and sort and locate documents by using the Windows NT Explorer.

4. **Windows NT 4.0: System Administration** (2 days)
   Overview: Students will learn how to administer users, groups, and domains in a Windows NT 4.0 network.

   Prerequisites: Windows NT Workstation 4.0: Orientation or equivalent knowledge; basic networking terminology.

   Students will learn how to create and administer user and group accounts, manage network resources, and set up and administer permissions for files and folders. Students will learn to establish trusts, set up and administer network printers, and use auditing functions to generate and view security logs. Students will also learn how to perform tape backups.

If there are any questions concerning the courses please contact *Ralph Thompson* on (202) 404-3143, or **thompsor@ccs.nrl.navy.mil.** ∎

Training Tapes

System Support Services is working with NRL's Employee Development Staff to take over responsibility for their collection of training video tapes. This project is currently in an inventory / assessment phase. This is a fairly large collection and some of the material may be out-of-date. Each tape will be labeled and a respective entry will be made into a tracking database.

The next phase will be to develop a web page to be used for checking out the videos. When all the preliminary work is completed, a new web page link will be added to the System Support home page allowing NRL employees to browse through the tape collection and reserve any training video in which they are interested. ∎

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